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In the Claims:

1   1.   [Currently Amended]   A method comprising:

2   defining a warranty start event for a product <u>for printing documents,</u>

3 <u>wherein the warranty start event comprises printing a specified number of</u>

4 <u>documents greater than one;</u>

5   <u>printing the specified number of documents greater than one using the</u>

6 <u>product;</u>

7   generating a timestamp for the product after detection of the occurrence

8 of said warranty start event;

9   storing said timestamp in a memory; and

10   ~~wherein the product is for producing output, and wherein said warranty~~

11 ~~start event comprises production of a specified quantity of the output~~

12   <u>reading said timestamp from said memory to determine said warranty</u>

13 <u>start date.</u>

1   2.   [Canceled].

1   3.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein

2 said memory is internal to the product.

1   4.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein

2 said step of generating a timestamp comprises obtaining said timestamp from a

3 clock internal to the product.

1   5.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein

2 the product is connected to a data network, and wherein said step of generating

3 a timestamp comprises obtaining said timestamp over the network using the

4 product.

1   6.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein

2 the product is connected to a data network, and wherein said memory is

3 remotely located from the product and is accessible over the network.

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1   7.   [Canceled].

1   8.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein
2   the product is for connection to a data network, and wherein said step of
3   generating a timestamp comprises obtaining a timestamp over the data network.

1   9.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 8 wherein
2   said step of obtaining a timestamp over the network comprises connecting to a
3   time server over the network, querying said time server with a network time
4   protocol query for a time value, and obtaining a time value from said time server
5   in a network time protocol.

1   10.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein
2   said step of storing said timestamp in said memory further comprises encrypting
3   said timestamp.

1   11.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 10 wherein
2   the method further comprises the step of outputting said encrypted timestamp
3   from the product.

1   12.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein
2   the method further comprises the step of continuously searching for occurrence
3   of said warranty start event to detect the occurrence of said warranty start
4   event.

Claims 13-30 [canceled].

1   31.   [Previously Presented]   A method as defined by claim 1 wherein
2   the generating the timestamp comprises generating the timestamp using the
3   product.

Claims 32-34 [canceled].